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June 2d, 1857.

Mr. ORD, President, in the Chair.

The following papers were presented for publication in the Proceedings, viz :

Notes on the Geology of the Mauvaises Terres of White River, Nebraska, by F. V. Hayden, M. D.

Prodromus descriptionis animalium evertetratorum, quæ in Expeditioni ad Oceanum Pacificum Septentrionalem a Republica Federatâ missâ, Cadwaladaro Ringgold et Johanne Rodgers ducibus. observavit et descripsit W. Stimpson.

Description of two new genera of Shells, and Rectification of some of the generic names of American Tertiary Fossils, by T. A. Conrad.

Which as usual were referred to committees.

Dr. Leidy remarked that upon one of the specimens of coal shales with fossil fishes, from Linton, Jefferson Co., Ohio, presented this evening by Mr. Wheatley, there was a compressed oval, black, shining, brittle, homogeneous mass, about three inches long, and one inch and a quarter wide, by two lines in thickness, which he suspected to be the ink bag of a Loligo, or cuttle-fish. The carbonaceous mass can readily be reduced to an impalpable powder, which has the same appearance and color as that derived from the fossil Loligo of the Lias of Würtemberg.

Mr. Lea exhibited two specimens from the dark slates of the Red Sandstone of Phoenixville, Pa., which had been procured by Mr. Wheatley from the tunnel of the Reading Railroad. These specimens contained a *bone* and a *coprolite*, and through the mass could be observed imperfect portions of the so-called *Posidonia*, which has been found usually wherever these black slates occur. The bone is fractured at both ends, is nearly four inches long and three-quarters by nearly half an inch thick. It is flattened on the outside and curved on the inner side. The transverse section nearly resembles that which, as the fore-arm or leg, Mr. Lea figured in the Journal, N. S., vol. ii., pl. 18, fig. 1, under the name of *Olepsysaurus Pennsylvanicus*, and it may be identical with that species; or it may belong to that of *Centmodon sulcatus*, Lea, which was described in the Proceedings of the Academy in April of last year, from a single tooth, and which he found within a few hundred yards of the same locality, at the northern end of the same tunnel. This is another evidence among the very few in Pennsylvania of the existence of Saurian life at the period of this interesting Red Sandstone formation. The specimen of coprolite is more perfect than any Mr. Lea had seen from the same locality, and was probably one of the ejectamenta of this Saurian.

June 9th, 1857.

Dr. B. COATES in the Chair.

Dr. Leidy remarked that the specimens of coprolites and shales with *Posidonia*, and the left dental bone of a fish presented by Mr. Conrad and himself this evening, had been obtained in a recent visit to Black Tunnel, near Phoenix-1857.]